

FRESNO, CA - Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) announced today (Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2005) that Kern County will receive a grant of over \$500,000 from the United States Department of Justice office of the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

"These funds," Costa said, "help to compensate states and localities for the costs incurred for incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens."

"The Bureau of Justice Assistance," Congressman Costa explained, "administers the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, in conjunction with the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Department of Homeland Security."

Kern County will receive \$613,980 to assist local law enforcement agencies.